

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 04216 190723Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCCT-01 /076 W

----- 126494

R 180955Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 638

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINVPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L L U A L A L U M P U R 4 2 1 6

BANGKOK LVW SONGKHLA

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MY

SUBJ: MALAYSIA'S COMMUNIST INSURGENCY: WHAT CAN BE DONE?

REF: A) KL A-22, 2/13/75; B) KL A-69, 5/20 74

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION OF AN AIRGRAM REPORT WHICH WILL BE POUCHED ALL ADDRESSEES JUL 24.

2. SUMMARY: THE INCREASE IN THE TEMPO OF MALAYSIA'S COMMUNIST INSURGENCY, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE FALL OF INDOCHINA, HAS HEIGHTENED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUALA 04216 190723Z

CONCERN HERE AND ABROAD THAT MALAYSIA -- AFTER THAILAND -- MAY

BE THE NEXT OF THE "DOMINOES." NOTWITHSTANDING NORTH VIETNAMESE INTENTION TOWARD THAILAND AND MALAYSIA, IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT MALAYSIA'S DOMESTIC INSURGENCY HAS DEEP HISTORICAL ROOTS AND THAT RECENT TERRORIST OPERATIONS ARE ESSENTIALLY A CONTINUATION OF A BUILD-UP THAT BEGAN THE LATE 1960'S. THE WORLD IS BY NOW CONVINCED OF THE PATIENCE AND DOGGEDNESS OF COMMUNIST REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS; THE VARIOUS COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA (CPM) FACTIONS, PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL CHIN PENG, AND THE 2,000 OR SO ARMED TERRORISTS IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA ARE NO EXCEPTION, AND THEY NO DOUBT BELIEVE THAT THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN MALAYSIA, COMBINED WITH COMMUNIST SUCCESSES IN INDOCHINA, HAVE MADE TIME THEIR ALLY.

3. THE COMMUNIST INSURGENCY IS A POLITICAL PHENOMENON, PRIMARILY TO BE SOLVED OR AMELIORATED BY POLITICAL MEANS. ERADICATION IN THE MILITARY SENSE IS NOT ENOUGH, AND MILITARY SUCCESS WILL NOT PRIMARILY BE A FUNCTION OF HARDWARE. THE 36 PERCENT OF MALAYSIANS WHO ARE CHINESE MUST HAVE PSYCHOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SECURITY -- NOT DOMINATION AS THEY ENJOYED IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE UNDER BRITISH COLONIAL RULE, BUT A FAIR DEAL. ON THE MALAY SIDE, THE GOVERNMENT MUST IMPROVE ITS "DELIVERY SYSTEM" IN PASSING ALONG THE BENEFITS OF PROGRESS TO THE RURAL POPULATION AND TO NEWLY-URBANIZED YOUNG MALAYS. MORE EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, KEEPING POLITICAL PROMISES AND TOLERATION OF CONSTRUCTIVE DISSENT ARE RIPE AREAS FOR POSITIVE GOVERNMENT ACTION. AT THE SAME TIME, BUT NOT SOLELY, THE MILITARY/SECURITY EFFORT AGAINST THE COMMUNIST TERRORISTS (CT'S) AND THE COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND NEEDS TO BE IMPROVED BY CHANGES IN STRATEGY AND TACTICS. AND OVERALL THERE MUST BE GREATER DETERMINATION, COUPLED WITH BETTER PERFORMANCE, OF THE GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS IN IMPLEMENTING A NATIONAL "FAIR DEAL" FOR ALL CITIZENS.

4. CONCLUSION: OUR ANALYSIS LEADS TO THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:
(A) THAT MALAYSIA CAN SURVIVE AS A NATION, DESPITE THE ADVERSE TURN OF EVENTS IN INDOCHINA, IF IT CAN GIVE ALL OF ITS CITIZENS, AND ESPECIALLY THE LEAST ADVANTAGED AMONG ALL THE RACES, A "FAIR DEAL" IN TERMS OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, ECONOMIC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUALA 04216 190723Z

DEVELOPMENT, AND "BELONGING" TO AN ENTITY CALLED MALAYSIA;
(B) THAT MILITARY MEASURES TO COMBAT THE CT'S IN THEMSELVES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT AND MUST BE COMBINED WITH NEW GOVERNMENT DETERMINATION TO ELIMINATE THE DOMESTIC THREAT AND TO CARRY OUT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICIES TO DIMINISH POPULAR SUPPORT TO THE TERRORISTS; (C) ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNIST INSURGENCY IS AN ECONOMIC BURDEN, MALAYSIA HAS THE RESOURCES TO COMBAT IT SUCCESSFULLY PROVIDED IT ASSIGNS A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH PRIORITY

TO ITS EFFORTS; AND (D) THAT THE U.S. INTEREST AND ROLE, WHILE
SYMPATHETIC AND SUPPORTIVE, CANNOT BE OVERT OR EXTENSIVE

BECAUSE OF WHAT MALAYSIA PERCEIVES AS ITS OVERALL FOREIGN POLICY
INTERESTS AND BECAUSE ONLY THE ACTIONS OF THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT
CAN TURN THE TIDE AGAINST ITS INSURGENCY.
DILLON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, TERRORISTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUALA04216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750250-0003
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750743/aaaabmjs.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KL A-22, 75 2/13/75, 75 KL A-69, 75 5/20, 75 74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAYSIA'S COMMUNIST INSURGENCY: WHAT CAN BE DONE?
TAGS: PINS, PINR, MILI, MY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006